

ABSTRACT

5 An exhaust purification catalyst (11) for purifying  
NO<sub>x</sub> under a lean air-fuel ratio is arranged in exhaust  
passage of an internal combustion engine. As a catalyst  
carrier (50) of this exhaust purification catalyst (11),  
alumina, which has base points on the carrier surface, is  
used. The surface of the alumina is made to carry  
10 platinum (51) dispersed on it without forming a layer of  
a NO<sub>x</sub> absorbent able to absorb NO<sub>x</sub>. The air-fuel ratio of  
the exhaust gas flowing into the exhaust purification  
catalyst (11) is temporarily switched from lean to rich  
before the entire surface of the platinum (51) suffers  
from oxygen poisoning.

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